

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard Gallagher on 7/12/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Line 3 of claim 35 has been amended from "pre-treating a filler with anionic colloidal particles" to --pre-treating a portion of a filler amount intended for a stock with anionic colloidal particles--. Line 11 of claim 35 has also been amended from "cellulose fibers to form a stock" to --cellulose fibers to form the a stock--.

Claim 36 has been canceled.

Claim 41 has been amended from "as defined in claim 12" to --as defined in claim 35--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 2, 4-8, 10-11, 14-23, 27-31, 35, 37-44, and 46-49 are allowed.**
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for allowance is that it has not been shown by the prior art to have a process of

making paper that includes pre-treating only a portion of the filler with anionic inorganic particles with the specified size and physical properties in the claimed amount of the total stock of the pulp prior to treating with the specific cationic retention agent and being formed into a paper.

4. The closest prior art of record is Beckner et al (USP 3,758,376) which provides a method of making paper with pretreating TiO₂ with a colloidal magnesium silicate and a negative charge, but does not teach the addition of the specific acrylamide agent nor provides the claimed concentrations or BET surface area of the colloidal particle that is added to only a portion of the filler. One of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to take the teachings of Beckner and modify it to the point of only treating a portion of the filler with to make up the claimed concentrations and then treating the stock with the specific retention agent as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JACOB T. MINSKEY whose telephone number is (571)270-7003. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Daniels can be reached on 571-272-2450. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JTM

/Matthew J. Daniels/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1741